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## Special Libraries, April 1950

Special Libraries Association

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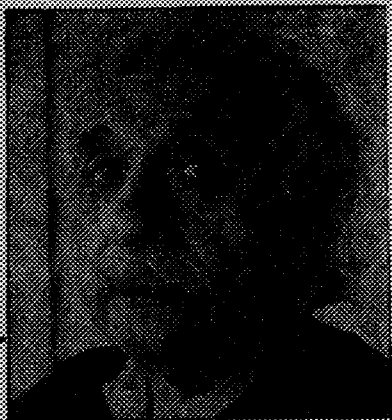
# Special Libraries

Including Highlights from the SLA Executive  
Board and Advisory Council Meetings  
March 9-11, 1950  
and  
Special Libraries Association 41st Annual  
Convention Preliminary Program

April,

Vol. 41, No. 4,  1950

Special Libraries Association



**ALBERT  
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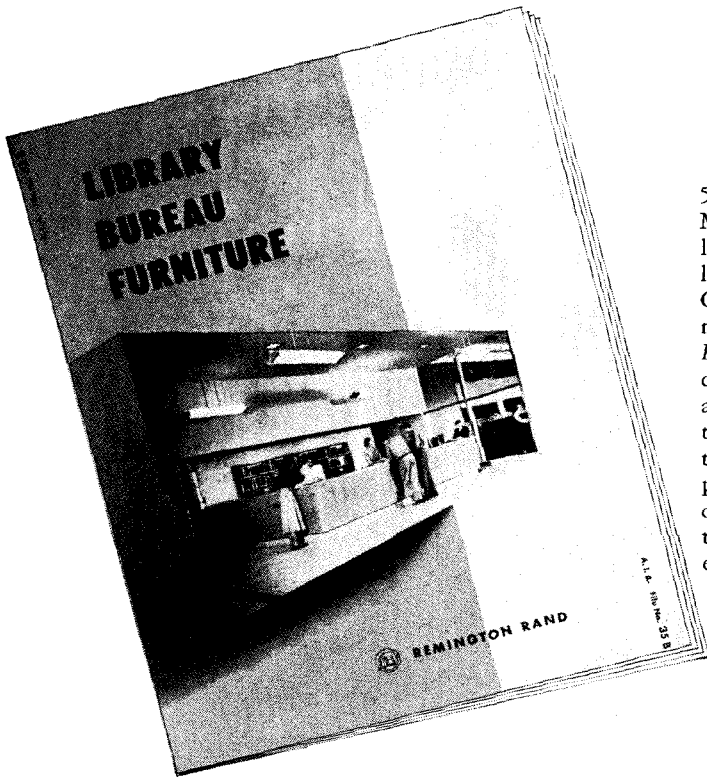
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# Special Libraries

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

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*Indexed in Industrial Arts, Public Affairs  
Information Service, and Library Literature*

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# A Few Highlights from the SLA Executive Board and Advisory Council Meetings

MARCH 9-11, 1950

THE MORNING MEETING of the Executive Board and Advisory Council held March 10, 1950, was devoted principally to the reading of reports from the various Committee chairmen. So much time was consumed in this way that there was little left to discuss the recommendations made or the questions raised in these reports. Some of those present suggested omitting the reading of reports in the future in order to reserve *all* of the time for discussion. As a consequence, at the next Council meeting all Committee chairmen, who would normally present a report, will be asked to submit it far enough in advance so that copies can be mimeographed. These will be sent to all Advisory Council members, who, it is hoped, will have read them prior to the meeting and will come prepared to discuss them. *No routine reports will be read at the Advisory Council Meeting in June.*

The afternoon session was devoted to a discussion of the proposed Constitution revision. The Executive Board has received two proposals for a mail ballot alike in purpose, but differing in detail. Both, having been properly presented and signed,—one by 48 members and the other by 478 members—will be presented for vote at the June Business Meeting unless withdrawn before that time. Out of the discussion on these came a proposal for still a third amendment on mail voting. This provides an opportunity for discussing and voting at the Business Meeting, as is now done, but requires that the amendment could

not become effective until it was ratified by a mail vote of the entire voting membership. It was the consensus at the Council that this would be acceptable to all since it would allow for discussion and change of wording in assembly and still give every member the right to say “yes” or “no” in deciding the final revision. An amendment to this effect is being prepared by the Constitution Committee.

In discussing the Constitutional provision that “members not living within fifty miles of a Chapter shall be considered unaffiliated members”, the question was raised as to Chapter territorial boundaries. Is the Texas Chapter the entire State of Texas? What is Western New York? Dr. Adkinson, chairman of the Geography and Map Group, was asked to prepare a map which would show the areas covered by the Chapters. After a little thought, it was obvious that no one knew just what these limits were so that the project became one of first determining just what the Chapter boundaries are. Dr. Adkinson graciously accepted the assignment and we are looking forward to having a map which will show the results of his investigation.

At the request of the Executive Board, the Membership Committee presented a revision on the method of counting members for the Gavel Award. This Award is presented to the Chapter having the greatest percentage of increase in membership for the year, based on the count of members as of May 31

(Continued on page 136)



# Special Libraries Association 41st Annual Convention

JUNE 12-16, 1950

Headquarters — Chalfonte-Haddon Hall Hotel, Atlantic City, New Jersey

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

SO THAT SLA MEMBERS may know well in advance the program planned for the 1950 Convention it is printed this year in the April issue of the magazine instead of in the May-June as in former years. Through the splendid cooperation of the Group Chairmen and their Convention representatives, the Convention Chairman has been able to accomplish this feat and she more than appreciates their efforts.

It will be noted in studying this program that the meetings are for the most part general in scope. The Committee planned them in accordance with the Convention's 1950 theme—"One for All and All for One". Such subjects as "Work Simplification" and "Sources of Information" are of interest to all librarians no matter what their Group affiliations may be. The general luncheon scheduled for Wednesday, June 14, will have as its speaker someone well versed in the subject of economics—also of interest to the membership as a whole. The joint meeting of the Chapter and Group Liaison Officers, instead of taking the form of a round table, will this year be a general luncheon with a speaker who will discuss "Methods of Successful Association Leadership." The film sponsored by the Geography and Map Group on Thursday evening is to be shown for all members—and will no doubt prove to be a "respite" after a full

day of SLA business.

These general meetings will in no way, however, over-shadow Group meetings as will be seen by the program. Time has been allowed for all Groups to have their own separate meetings and Wednesday morning has been set aside for all Group business meetings.

The Convention promises to be one which will benefit every member who attends. The spot chosen, Atlantic City, has its own peculiar charm, and time is provided on Wednesday afternoon to take advantage of the sea breezes. The program should appeal to those who wish special Group meetings as well as to those who prefer more general ones. There is considerable Association business to transact and decisions to be made so it behooves all who are interested—and who are not?—in the welfare and future of SLA to attend and to voice their approval or dissent. Friday, June 17, is Philadelphia Day, when many Philadelphia libraries will open their doors to visitors. A list of these will be printed in the Convention program. Many Groups are arranging special programs on that day in Philadelphia.

Plan now to come to Atlantic City from June 12-16, 1950. You will be well rewarded!

ALMA C. MITCHILL, *Chairman*  
1950 Convention Committee



(Executive Board will meet on Sunday, June 11, 1950—9:30 A. M. All day Session. Open to all interested SLA members)

## Monday, June 12

### Morning

#### First General Session 10:00 A. M.-12:00 Noon

Mrs. Ruth Hooker presiding

*Invocation:* Rev. Robert F. Beattie, Rector, St. James Protestant Episcopal Church, Atlantic City, N. J.

*Address of Welcome* (Speaker to be announced)

*Reply:* Hazel Levins, President, New Jersey Chapter, SLA

*President's Annual Report:* Mrs. Hooker  
*Microcards and the Library Storage Problem,* Fremont Rider, Chairman, Microcard Committee; Librarian, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut

*Resumé of Exhibits:* Paul Sutherland, Exhibit Chairman

### Luncheons

#### 12:30-2:00 P. M.

#### CHAPTER AND GROUP RELATIONS LUNCHEON

*Methods of Successful Association Leadership:* Howard Coonley, American Standards Association, New York

#### INSURANCE GROUP

*"Extra-Company" Insurance Libraries:* Abbie G. Glover, Insurance Libraries Association, Boston, Massachusetts; Elizabeth Ferguson, Department of Information, Institute of Life Insurance, New York

### Afternoon

#### 2:30-5:00 P. M.

*Work Simplification Clinic.* Sponsored by the Publishing Group.

Groups participating: Advertising, Business, Financial, Newspaper, Publishing, Science-Technology, Social Science, and Transportation

Part I: Discussion by outside speaker on efficient library layout, rejuvenation of the library, making the most of limited space, suitable library equipment, etc.

Part II: Panel discussion by members of SLA to include a resumé of the Work Simplification Clinic held at the Los Angeles Convention.

Part III: General discussion from the floor.

#### Exhibits

Photographs of libraries

Binders, forms, also Work Simplification Exhibit displayed in Los Angeles during 1949 SLA Convention

### Dinner

#### 6:30-8:00 P. M.

Dinner for those members attending their first SLA Convention

*Speaker:* Mrs. Elizabeth Owens, Librarian, Mercantile-Commerce Bank and Trust Co., St. Louis, Missouri, and President-Elect, SLA

### Evening

#### Radio Program

*Chairman:* Marian Manley, Librarian, Business Library, Newark, New Jersey

Informal reception and entertainment

---

## Tuesday, June 13

#### 8:00-9:30 A. M.

#### BREAKFAST

#### TRANSPORTATION GROUP

First Methods Meeting: *Clipping and Weeding.* Discussion Leaders: *Clipping:* Elva Ferguson, Librarian, Pennsylvania Railroad Company, Philadelphia, Pa. *Weeding:* Sara Price, Librarian, Port of New York Authority, New York

**10:00 A. M.-12:00 Noon**

EXECUTIVE BOARD and ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

**Luncheons**

**12:30-2:00 P. M.**

PUBLISHING

SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY—METALS SECTION

(Luncheon and afternoon meeting combined)

SOCIAL SCIENCE

(Meeting for Social Science Group Executive Board)

**Afternoon**

**2:30-5:00 P. M.**

*Sources of Information.* Open to all members. Sponsored by Business, Financial, Insurance, Publishing and Social Science Groups.

*Sources of information for the acquisition of foreign government publications and current aids to the acquisition of United Nations publications:* Mrs. Violet Cabeen, Chief of Acquisitions, United Nations Library, Lake Success, New York

*Information Sources in the Labor Field:* Ralph E. McCoy, Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, University of Illinois

*1950 Census,* Ida M. Meyer, Librarian, U. S. Department of Commerce, Regional Office, New York.

*Information on Business Practices, Conditions and Trends:* Dr. Hermon K. Murphey, Director, Information Service Division, National Industrial Conference Board

**OTHER GROUP MEETINGS**

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

2:30—Members invited to attend Science-Technology Pharmaceutical Section Meeting

HOSPITAL AND NURSING

2:30—*Medical Literature Program of the World Health Organization:* Dr. Miguel E. Bustamante, Secretary-General, Pan-American Sanitary Bureau; Mrs. Janeiro B. Schmid, Librarian, Pan-American Sanitary Bureau

MUSEUM

2:30—*Work Simplification Clinic:* Conducted by Hannah Muller, Museum of Modern Art, New York, based on the methods employed in her library

SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY—METALS SECTION

*Sources of Information.* Part I

2:30-3:30—*The Technical Society as a Library Resource:* Marjorie R. Hyslop, Editor, *Metals Review*, American Society for Metals

3:30-4:30—*Engineering Societies as Sources of Information:* Ralph Phelps, Director, Engineering Societies Library, New York

SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY—PHARMACEUTICAL SECTION

2:30-3:00—*Widening Horizons:* Dr. Madelain O. Holland, Editor, *American Professional Pharmacist*

3:00-3:30—*Getting the Most from the Small Pharmaceutical Library:* Mrs. Mildred P. Clark, Librarian, Winthrop Stearns, Inc., New York

3:30-4:00—*The Pharmaceutical Librarian's Role as a Business Reference Service:* Annis Schlesier, Assistant Librarian, Schering Corporation, Bloomfield New Jersey

4:00-4:30—*Information Sources of Use to the Pharmaceutical Librarian:* Doris Lowe, Librarian, Medical Division, Bristol Myers Company, Hillside, New Jersey

4:30-5:00—*Question and Answer Box:* Conducted by Gertrude Schutze, Librarian, Bristol Myers Company, Hillside, New Jersey

**Dinners**  
**6:30-8:00 P. M.**

**FINANCIAL GROUP**

*Public Relations:* Nettie Pepier, Librarian, Empire Trust Company, New York; Amy Dene Earley, Librarian, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Washington, D. C.; Marion E. Wells, Librarian, First National Bank, Chicago, Illinois

**INSURANCE GROUP**

*Library Problems. Forum:* Florence Bradley, formerly Librarian, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York; Elizabeth Ferguson, Institute of Life Insurance, New York; Mary Jane Henderson, Librarian, Sun Life Assurance Company, Montreal, Canada; Violet Campbell, Co-ordination Department, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York

**MUSEUM GROUP**  
Shore Dinner

**NEWSPAPER GROUP**

*Speaker:* Representative of the New York *Herald-Tribune*

**SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY—CHEMISTRY SECTION**

**Evening**  
**8:30-10:30 P. M.**

**GEOGRAPHY AND MAP AND TRANSPORTATION GROUPS. Joint Meeting**

*Transportation and Planning of Highways:* Spencer Miller, Jr., New Jersey State Highway Commissioner

**MUSEUM**

Two Movies: (1) *The Oldest Art*; (2) *Maya Through the Ages* (United Fruit Company)

**SOCIAL SCIENCE**

Panel Discussion. *Public Relations and the Public Administration Library*

*Moderator:* Mrs. Louise H. Clickner, Municipal Reference Service, Governments Division, U. S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D. C.

*Speakers:* Mrs. Helen T. Steinbarger, Consultant in Adult Education, Public Library of the District of Columbia; Gwendolen M. Kidd, Librarian, British Embassy and British Information Service, Washington, D. C.

**SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY—CHEMISTRY SECTION**

Symposium: *Services and Information Offered by the Various Chemical Associations*

8:00-8:30—Part I, Helen Dikeman, Research Librarian, Plastics Division, Monsanto Chemical Company, Springfield, Massachusetts

8:30-9:00—Part II, Dr. Else L. Schulze, Research Librarian, Proctor and Gamble Company, Ivorydale, Cincinnati, Ohio

9:00-9:30—Part III, Dorris Hall, Research Librarian, Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio

9:30-10:00—Open discussion of papers

**SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY—ENGINEERING-AERONAUTICS SECTION**

Symposium: *Engineering and Scientific Libraries in Support of the National Military Establishment Research and Development Program*  
*Chairman:* Luis E. Bejarano, Librarian, U. S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, New York

7:30-8:00—*The Role of Libraries in Military Research Laboratories*, William E. Jorgensen, Librarian, U. S. Navy Electronics Laboratory, San Diego, California

8:00-8:30—*The Impact of the Military Research Program on College and University Scientific Libraries*, William S. Budington, Engineering Librarian, Columbia University, New York

8:30-9:00—*The Military Scientist Views Technical Libraries:* A scientist from the Signal Corps Engineering Laboratories, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey

**SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION — PRELIMINARY CONVENTION PROGRAM**  
**Atlantic City, New Jersey — June 12-16, 1950**

	Breakfasts 8:00	Morning 10:00 - 12:00	Luncheons 12:00 - 2:00	Afternoon 2:00 - 5:30	Evening 6:00 - 10:00
<b>SUNDAY JUNE 11</b>				<b>Executive Board Meeting</b>	
<b>MONDAY JUNE 12</b>		<b>First General Session</b>	Chapter and Group Relations Insurance	"Work Simplification" Advertising Business Financial Museum Newspaper Publishing Science-Technology Social Science Transportation	Dinner (6:30 - 8:00) For members attending their first SLA Convention Radio Program Informal Reception
<b>TUESDAY JUNE 13</b>	Transportation	<b>Executive Board and Advisory Council Meeting</b>	Publishing Science-Technology (Metals)	"Sources of Information" Business Insurance Publishing Social Science  Science-Technology (Metals) Science-Technology (Pharmaceutical)	Dinners (6:30 - 8:00) Financial           Museum Insurance           Newspaper Science-Technology (Chemistry) 8:30 - 10:00 Geography and Map-Transportation —Joint Meeting Museum Social Science Science-Technology (Chemistry) Science-Technology (Engineering- Aeronautics)
<b>WEDNESDAY JUNE 14</b>	Advertising Financial <i>Geography and Map</i> Insurance Publishing Science-Technology (Metals) Science-Technology (Pharmaceutical) Science-Technology (Public Utilities) Transportation	Group Business Meetings	<b>General Luncheon</b>	Geography and Map Museum (Boat trip) Science-Technology (Metals)	<b>Banquet</b>
<b>THURSDAY JUNE 15</b>		Vote on SLA Propos- ed Constitutional Changes	<b>Annual Business Meeting</b>	Vote on SLA Proposed Constitutional Changes	Dinner—Newspaper (6:30) "Secret Land"—U. S. Navy Film of Byrd Anarctic Expedition (9:00) Social Science (8:30)
<b>FRIDAY JUNE 16</b>	<b>Philadelphia Day</b> Visits to Philadelphia Libraries	<b>Executive Board and Advisory Council Meeting</b>			

## Wednesday, June 14

### Morning

8:00-9:30 A. M.

#### GROUP BREAKFASTS

ADVERTISING

FINANCIAL

GEOGRAPHY AND MAP

PUBLISHING

SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY — CHEMISTRY SECTION, METALS SECTION, PHARMACEUTICAL SECTION, PUBLIC UTILITIES SECTION

TRANSPORTATION

Annual Business Meeting

Second Methods Meeting

*Periodical Routing.* Discussion Leader: To be announced

*Magazine Indexing.* Discussion Leader: Edith C. Stone, Librarian, Simmons-Boardman Publishing Corporation, New York

*Subject Headings and Cataloging.* Discussion Leader: To be announced

10:00 A. M.-12:00 Noon

#### BUSINESS MEETINGS

All Groups

### Luncheon

12:30-2:00 P. M.

Sponsored by Financial Group—  
Open to all members

*The International Situation in Finance and Economics:* Wilbert Ward, Vice-President, National City Bank of New York

### Afternoon

2:30-5:00 P. M.

#### GEOGRAPHY AND MAP GROUP

*United Nations Cartographic Office as Recommended by the Committee of Experts on Cartography:* Gustavo Duran, Acting Director, Sub-Division of Social Development, Department of Social Affairs, United Nations

*Exhibit: Maps and Methods used at United Nations*

#### MUSEUM GROUP

*UNESCO, What it means to the Museum Librarian:* Eleanor Mitchell, Chief, Art Department, New York Public Library

#### SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY — METALS SECTION. *Sources of Information.* Part II

2:30-3:00—*Publications and Services offered by the American Iron and Steel Institute:* Margaret Fuller, Librarian, American Iron and Steel Institute, New York

3:00-3:30—*Selective Sources of Information in the Non-Ferrous Field:* Vivian J. MacDonald, Librarian, Aluminum Company of America, New Kensington, Pennsylvania

4:00-4:30—*Some Sources of Engineering Information:* Caroline W. Lutz, Librarian, Research Laboratories, General Motors Corporation, Detroit, Michigan

#### SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY-PETROLEUM SECTION

2:30-4:30—Business Meeting (Probably with a speaker)

\* \* \*

(The afternoon is otherwise free for committee meetings, visits to exhibits, informal discussions, etc.)

### Evening

7:30 P. M.

#### BANQUET

*Speaker:* Major General Edward C. Rose, Vice-President, Public Service Electric and Gas Company, Newark, New Jersey

*Toastmaster:* Roger McDonough, New Jersey State Librarian

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## Thursday, June 15

### Morning

9:00 A. M.-12:00 Noon

Discussion and vote on proposed SLA Constitutional changes

**Afternoon**  
**2:00-5:00 P. M.**

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

**Dinners**  
**6:30-8:00 P. M.**

ADVERTISING—Program to be announced

NEWSPAPER

Speaker: Representative from American Press Institute

**Evening**  
**8:30-10:00 P. M.**

GEOGRAPHY AND MAP

*Secret Land*: U. S. Navy film depicting Admiral Byrd's Antarctic Expedition. Open to all SLA members. 9:00 P. M. sharp.

**8:30 P. M.**

SOCIAL SCIENCE—Time available for any Sections which wish to arrange additional meetings



### Friday, June 16

(Executive Board and Advisory Council Meeting—10:00 A. M. All day Session. Open to all interested SLA members)

#### Philadelphia Day

(Several Philadelphia libraries will hold open house for SLA members. A list of these libraries will appear in the final program to be distributed at the Convention. Many of the Groups, as designated below, have made definite plans for this day.)

ADVERTISING—10:30 A. M.—Noon

N. W. Ayer & Sons (Advertising Group joins Publishing Group)  
Guided tour of art gallery  
Meeting in auditorium  
Library visit

12:30-3:30—Curtis Publishing Company (Publishing Group joins Advertising Group)

12:30—Assembly in Women's Lounge, Ninth Floor, Curtis Building

12:45-1:30—Showing of *Magazine Magic*, technicolor movie

1:30-2:15—Luncheon, Tenth Floor, Curtis Building

2:15-3:00—*Speaker*: Donald M. Hobart, Director of Research, Curtis Publishing Company; Author, *Marketing Research Practice*, 1950

3:00-3:30—Visit to Information Section Library, Research Department, 14th Floor, Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company Building, Sixth and Walnut Streets

GEOGRAPHY AND MAP

Visit to the Aero Service Corporation

INSURANCE

Visits to American College of Life Underwriters; American Institute of Property and Liability; University of Pennsylvania Library

MUSEUM

Philadelphia Museum of Art. Program specially arranged by Marjorie Lyons, Librarian. (11:00 A. M.)

University of Pennsylvania Museum. Program arranged by Cynthia Griffin, Museum Librarian. (3:30 P. M.)

NEWSPAPER

Visits to libraries of *Philadelphia Inquirer* and *Philadelphia Bulletin*

PUBLISHING (See Advertising Group)

SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY (List of libraries to be visited appears in the March 1950 issue of *Sci-Tech News*)

TRANSPORTATION

Morning open for visits to libraries, a list of which will be available later

Luncheon (tentative)

Visit to Lippincott Library, Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, University of Pennsylvania

\* \* \*

(Special buses from Atlantic City to Philadelphia can be arranged but it will be necessary to establish a definite time for departure.)

# The Library in Research<sup>1</sup>

*Mr. Davis is a member of the New York Bar; Resident Attorney, Research Corporation, New York City, and Adjunct Professor of Administrative Engineering, New York University.*

THE LABORATORY WORKER is peculiarly and strongly linked to the library. Librarian and laboratory worker alike carry certain fundamental rules of decision in their heads. Librarians, for instance, know that German scientific periodicals will normally be requested more frequently than Belgian ones, and govern their acquisitions, abstracting and shelving in accordance. Laboratory men do not waste their time trying to form derivatives of the noble gases. None of this is special particularized knowledge, though it may be peculiar to a given field, and the possession of such fundamental rules is the basis of the biggest volume of our daily decisions.

Laboratory work, however, like evaluation between two particular German periodicals, does depend on highly particularized knowledge. Any organic chemist knows that only a fool will attempt to carry such information in his head, or rely on a loose statement of it. It is the sort of material which must constantly be looked up, and it is at that precise point that the librarian enters the picture.

## Task of Technical Librarian

The task of the technical or special librarian is the amassing, evaluation, classification, preservation and rapid production of specialized information pertinent to his company's objectives.

The special library is very different from the old concept of a library as a place where books are kept in some sort of classified fashion. To me, admittedly as a layman, the best technical libraries are not primarily concerned with books at all, but with books *and* patents *and* statistical data *and* drawings *and* notebooks *and* periodicals *and* clippings—a heteroform mass of information.

The technical library will of course be devoted to the functional interests and occupations of the company which it serves. On occasion mere definition of that phrase can become a major project. Research Corporation is engaged in the evaluation for patentability and scientific or commercial development of inventions ranking from dog-biscuit and clothespins to the cyclotron and vitamin B<sub>1</sub>, a variety which has discouraged every source except the New York Public Library. But unless one is dealing with such an unusual institution, or one as large and varied in its preoccupations as the Bell Telephone Laboratories or one of the biggest universities, the librarian will not be confronted with such a wide diversity of demands; the technical field with which he is concerned will be of reasonable breadth, even though of great depth.

Since the information furnished as the basis of technical or executive decisions answers the technician's or the executive's usual questions about the company's activities, those same usual questions must in fact be answered by the library. They are rather simply stated—Is there any reason to make a certain product? Can we make it? Will we have the right to make it? Of course, this is over-simplification, for "Is there any reason to make it?" expands into other questions of dismaying variety:

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from a paper presented before the Science-Technology Group, Special Libraries Association, New York Chapter, October 24, 1949.



Is this something the public wants now? Is this something the public can be led to want? Do we have to produce this to have a full line? Can we simplify our purchasing, or a totally different process, or servicing our product, if we can make this? Should we try to manufacture this as a matter of trade prestige? If so, can we forestall expected competition from our rivals? Can a higher profit be expected, if we produce it than is now earned by a similar but outmoded product?

Perhaps the simplest of the questions is "Will we have the right to manufacture it?"—in other words, can patents stop us from succeeding? In many of our smaller technical libraries, too little emphasis is placed on the importance of accumulating patent literature—it is usually left to the company's patents committee, or to the man who serves as liaison with the patent solicitor, or to the patent solicitor himself, though he be in Washington. The holder of letters patent has a perfectly lawful right to prevent anyone else in the United States from doing the same thing for seventeen years. His right to exclude goes further than that; if during that seventeen years Jones makes a substantial improvement in the product or process, but a part of or a basis of what Jones makes or does comes within the four corners of the patent, he still cannot use his improvement. Even if Jones patents his improvement in turn, he is blocked; we say that the older patent "dominates" the younger one. As a result, if a company is engaged in the manufacture of water softeners and has any hopes of improvements in that field, one of the first things a sensible executive will do when he outlines the research project will be to ascertain whether the company can or cannot go into production when, and if, the laboratory is successful. That means that the far-sighted librarian in the water softener company will be quietly acquiring, in a routine way, a fairly substantial file of patents in that field.

But patents are rather special, if one looks at them only from the viewpoint of lawful monopoly. Therefore, should they not be left to the patents committee, or the patents liaison man, or the solicitor in Washington (or the company's back office)? No, because a patent, like any other piece of *scientific*, not *legal*, literature, touches the company's scientific, and hence, business activities at a dozen points. As a matter of fact, the efficient librarian will not only be acquiring United States patents in the field, he will be collecting them from Canada, Great Britain, Germany, Holland and Switzerland as well, and will be concerned about France, Norway, Sweden and Italy. Foreign patents will not bar manufacture or use in the United States, but they will, if the company's invention turns out to be a minor improvement on what any one or more of them disclose, anywhere, bar a company from obtaining patents of its own.

#### Necessity of Reading Patents

The usefulness of these patents will not be confined to the mixed legal and economic problems of whether a company can produce without being sued for infringement or whether it can secure protection on its own work. It goes further, for the scientific worker routinely will read patents as scientific references just as he would read Fieser and Fieser on *Organic Chemistry*, or the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*. This flows from two reasons. The first is that the social duty of the patent is to teach—in the words of the patent law:

"the manner and process of making, constructing, compounding, and using it (the invention), in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it appertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make, construct, compound, and use the same; and in the case of a machine, he (the inventor) shall explain the principle thereof, and the best mode in which he has contemplated applying that principle, so as to distinguish it from other inventions . . ."

(*Revised Statutes*, s.4888; 35 U. S. Code 33).

It is true that patent applicants have been known to misdescribe their invention slightly in the hope that not only will their patent keep the competition out of the field but that its errors will prevent the competition from practising the art efficiently after the patent has expired—a tactic, incidentally, which results in the patent being void. It is also true that a reasonable number of patents are just plain wrong, or so loose that nothing but a field of experimentation is pointed out “fully, clearly, concisely and exactly.” By and large, however, patent literature is a scientific omnibus.

The second reason for reading patents is that their very inaccuracies, and to an even greater extent their commercial non-utility, is an excellent point of departure for intelligent speculation. A very high percentage of patents cover products or processes which are more or less laboratory curiosities, a direct invitation to try to reduce them to commercial practice, or to apply them to fields unforeseen by their inventors, or to alter and improve their art until a new and commercially useful invention is born.

But one does not find patents acquired purposively, and in useful quantity, in many small technical libraries.

Another somewhat neglected item is the technological, as opposed to the purely scientific, text. More and more of these are being published every day, where the author is not concerned with the pure theory of what goes in an ion-exchange resin filter, but rather with the design, functioning and overall economic position of the whole process train which uses that filter in the particular industry. The war forced us to put science to work as never before, and that tendency is increasing. It is embodied not only in such technological books as I have mentioned—for instance, books about the plastics industry—but in the periodical field as well, both in engineering magazines and in the more general trade magazines.<sup>1</sup>

There is a multiplicity of reasons why the library does not stock them. The periodicals come in to the production and sales and engineering (as distinct from research) divisions, because of professional affiliations or advertising placed or personal likes and dislikes. They are hard to shelve, and contain an enormous amount of advertising and trade news in ratio to the technical articles they carry. The research man is often out of the habit of reading them, because he is apt to be a Ph.D. or M.Sc. rather than an engineer. Scientific publications cite them much less frequently than they cite other scientific publications. The fact remains, however, that they, or at least their technological contents, are well worth acquisition and indexing.

Third, there is the laboratory notebook. I know that many research divisions (or what is worse, legal departments) lock them in the safe and they can only be seen by special dispensation from the front office. This practice is all wrong. The only sound reason why anyone should lock up notebooks is to preserve them as evidence against litigation involving the validity of patents, or to prevent interlopers from reading them. Interlopers do not usually have the run of the library, however, and microfilm answers the other point adequately. The best research departments are those which add to original work done in a long continuous line, building on the success and also on the failure of previous workers. The notebook is the best record of this—it should be available.

Fourth, there is the unusual periodical, which is concerned with piano-tuning but once a year contains an article on anti-corrosion compounds, which may be the company's main interest; or which comes out at odd intervals; or which is written in Rhaeto-Romanic. Most of these the librarian will have to

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<sup>1</sup> W. C. Cope, “Ammonia—Part II: Cost of Production and End-use Pattern,” *Chemical industries*, Vol. 65, July 1949.

handle, budgets and shelf-space being what they are, by going after reprints, or buying odd numbers (expensive as that is), or borrowing copies from a friend or another library. The important thing is to know that it exists, and the skillful librarian is in the best position to do so.

Fifth, there is the trade publication—not the general one, such as *Gas Age*, but the countless information sheets and catalogs which advertising and sales departments insist upon publishing.<sup>1</sup> A typical list in my office runs from poly-alkylene glycol lubricants to constructing frames.

Then there is the layman's publication, which is more useful in the patent attorney's office than in the technical library, but if the company does any gadgeteering, *Scientific American*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Mechanic Illustrated* and even the Sears Roebuck catalog are a mine of information.

Seventh, there is the index. This does not mean just *Chemical Abstracts*, *Physical Abstracts*, *The Engineering Index*, *The Industrial Arts Index*, or *The Agricultural Index*. At least one librarian I know makes a habit of pestering magazine publishers for copies of their indices, and shelves them in looseleaf form. More and more are making a habit of subscribing to services like the *Gaylor Technical Survey*. You cannot buy, or even read, everything you should, but you can employ an expert to do it for you and keep you informed on what you should see.

Finally, there is the habit of reading and clipping. If one wants to know all about anybody in a given city, the best place to go is a newspaper morgue, for

the newspaper has made a habit of clipping. Its job is somewhat more complex than yours, for it is interested in nearly everything, including you, and you are interested primarily in your company.

### Conclusion

All of this is pointed to the fact that a library is useful only if and to the extent that it shapes its activities to help its company's interests—something which cannot be too often reiterated. This means a real responsibility for whether profitable research can be done rests on the librarian or the patent searcher who has studied one or more fields of science and can find his way through the Patent Office's Classification System blindfolded, or the inventor who "has read everything ever printed in that field." These are all very well in their way. The contribution which the trained technical librarian can make lies in those adjectives; he or she is trained to know and use with discrimination the tools of what is beginning to be a precise and calculated science.

As this science, and recognition of it by other sciences, develops, its own problems will increase in direct ratio. The problems of anticipating what might be needed, of selection from the enormous fund of printed information, of acquisition or availability, of cost, and a dozen others, are becoming as troublesome as is the sheer volume of judicial decisions to a lawyer. Both planning and science will be necessary to handle these problems—the central specialized collection; cooperation with companies of similar interests, micro-recording in its various forms; better abstracting; union catalogs; and most hopeful of all, automatic devices as a replacement for sheer hard work—the automatic indexer, the memory desk, and the like.

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<sup>1</sup> See, Baldwin Locomotive Works, Testing Equipment Department, *Bulletin* No. 274, 2 pp., ill. "Application of SR-4 Load Beams in process and machine control and for general force measurements. Loads are measured by strain gages."

# The Geographer and the Library

*Robert Betts is Engineering Librarian of the Texas Engineers Library, College Station, Texas.*

*Dr. Gordon Schilz is Head of the Geography Department, Southeastern State College, Durant, Oklahoma.*

“GEOGRAPHY,” wrote Mr. George H. T. Kimble,<sup>1</sup> the British geographer, “is notoriously the Cinderella of the sciences. Although one of the oldest, it has been treated, until recent years, with unbecoming and wholly unmerited disrespect. Modern universities are not alone in their reluctance to accord the subject full academic honours. The Ancients, for all their enlightenment, could not make up their minds about its significance.” It should not come as a surprise, therefore, to discover that in many American colleges and universities, geography has been treated as a subordinate sub-division of other major subjects such as geology, for instance, rather than as a major field in its own right. Nor should it be cause for wonder that at present there is no adequate provision, as we shall see later, for the modern concept of geography within the Dewey classification system. Neither does the Library of Congress system, as Lorene Garloch,<sup>2</sup> of the University of Pittsburgh Library, has already observed, offer much more help in the matter.

World Wars I and II have quickened our interest in geography since they have touched the lives of all of us. While it is true that there are no more continents or large islands left to discover, it would be an error of the great-

est proportions to assume that our geographic knowledge is complete. “Even in Europe, where all lands may be classed as well-known,” the English geographer and historian, Mr. J. N. L. Baker,<sup>3</sup> wrote, “detailed geographical studies are relatively few: elsewhere there is no single continent where this form of exploration in its widest sense has reached more than its preliminary stages.” For that matter, large areas of land, such as the Labrador-Quebec hinterland, remain unmapped, unsurveyed and uninvestigated. It will be the work of many specialists in geography to carry forward this vast undertaking in the future.

What, then, is geography? There have been a number of papers on this subject and broad differences of opinion, many of which are examined and summarized in Dr. Hartshorne’s monograph.<sup>4</sup> For our purpose here we offer Dr. Elmer Ekblaw’s concept of geography as the study of place and its attributes. What time is to history, place is to geography. In the study of place, certain areas in economics, geology, sociology, history, cartography and political science are encompassed. Geography is more, therefore, than the study of maps or memorizing the names of the capitals of the world.

The need for better and more geography has been stated a number of times.<sup>5</sup> Little has been written about the libra-

<sup>3</sup> Baker, J. N. L., *History of Geographic Discoveries and Exploration*. Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1932.

<sup>4</sup> Hartshorne, Richard, “The Nature of Geography.” *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, v. 29, nos. 3 and 4, 1939.

<sup>5</sup> Renner, G. T., “Two Kinds of Geography.” *Social Education*, v. 7, no. 2, February 1943; Stiles, D., “Why Not Teach Geography?” *Harper’s Magazine*, v. 186, no. 1116, May 1943.

<sup>1</sup> Kimble, G. H. T., *Geography in the Middle Ages*. London, Methuen, 1938.

<sup>2</sup> Garloch, Lorene A., “Tools of Research,” *Journal of Geography*, v.46, February 1947.

ry needs of the geography department, or the ease of finding materials, or what references are necessary, or what is currently in print. Herein we are concerned with a mutual increase of efficiency between the library and the geography department.

References might be grouped by the topical method, but we prefer to center our discussion about the courses most often taught, which is also the viewpoint of beginning students and less experienced teachers. It is recognized that the contents of such courses may vary widely; however, the references and books listed here are used in many colleges and universities:

#### INTRODUCTORY GEOGRAPHY

- Finch, V. C. and Trewartha, G. T. *Elements of Geography*  
 Fordham, H. G. *Maps: Their History, Characteristics and Uses*  
 Hardy, M. E. *Geography of Plants*  
 Johnson, W. E. *Mathematical Geography*  
 Thompson, W. S. *Population Problems*  
 White, C. L. and Renner, G. T. *Human Ecology*

#### PHYSIOGRAPHY

- Atwood, W. W. *Physiography of North America*  
 Lobeck, A. K. *Geomorphology*  
 Semple, E. C. *Influence of Geographic Environment*

#### WEATHER AND CLIMATE

- Blair, T. A. *Weather Elements*  
 Brands, G. J. *Meteorology*  
 Clayton, H. H. *World Weather Records*  
 Kendrew, W. G. *Climate of Continents*  
 Sverdrup, H. V. *Oceanography for Meteorologists*

- Trewartha, G. T. *Weather and Climate*

#### SOILS AND CONSERVATION

- Hayden, S. S. *International Protection of Wild Life*  
 Kellogg, C. E. *Soils that Support Us*  
 Parkins, A. E. *Our Natural Resources and Their Conservation*  
 Sears, P. B. *Deserts on the March*  
 State Soil Survey Reports  
 U. S. Department of Agriculture Yearbooks

#### ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY

- Jones, C. F. and Darkenwald, G. *Economic Geography*  
 Leith, C. K. *World Minerals and World Politics*  
 National Resources Committee Publications

Smith, J. R. *Industrial and Commercial Geography*

*Statistical Abstracts of the United States*  
 U. S. Department of the Interior *Minerals Yearbooks*

Van Cleef, E. *Getting into Foreign Trade*  
 Van Cleef, E. *Trade Centers and Trade Routes*

Zimmerman, E. *World Resources and Industries*

#### POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

Bowman, I. *The New World*  
 Fairgrieve, J. *Geography and World Power*  
 Fawcett, C. B. *Political Geography of the British Empire*

Johnson, D. W. *Topography and Strategy in the War*

Mackinder, H. *Democratic Ideals and Reality*

Spykman, N. *American Strategy and World Politics*  
*Statesman's Yearbook*

Van Valkenburg, S. *America at War*  
 Van Valkenburg, S. *Political Geography*

#### HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY

Brown, R. *Historical Geography of the United States*

Dickinson, R. E. and Horwath, O. J. R. *The Making of Geography*

Morrison, S. E. *Admiral of the Ocean Seas*

Paullin, C. O. *Atlas of Historical Geography of the United States*

Semple, E. C. and Jones, C. F. *American History and Its Geographic Conditions*

Stefansson, V. *Great Explorers and Adventurers*

Stevenson, E. L. *Portolan Charts*

Sykes, P. *A History of Exploration from the Earliest Times to the Present Day*

Taylor, G. *Environment, Race and Migration*

#### LATIN AMERICA

James, P. E. *Latin America*

Platt, R. *Latin American Countrysides and United Regions*

#### EUROPE

Blanchard, R. *Geography of Europe*

Hubbard, G. D. *The Geography of Europe*

Lyde, L. W. *Continent of Europe*

Taylor, G. *Environment and Nation*

Van Valkenburg, S. and Huntington, E. *Europe*

#### ASIA

Cressy, G. B. *Asia's Lands and Peoples*  
 Smithsonian Studies *Peoples of the South Seas*

Stamp, L. D. *Asia*

#### NORTH AMERICA

McCarty, H. H. *Geographic Basis of American Life*

Smith, J. R. and Phillips, M. O. *North America*

Taylor, G. *Canada*

White, C. L. and Foscue, E. J. *Regional Geography of Anglo-America*

Inspection of these materials, a very incomplete list, will point-up two pressing and important problems facing both the library and the geography department.

First, how can one organize or classify these books so that they are readily found, discovered or thought of, by the geography department. We refer to the present inadequacy of the Dewey system for geography. The above books can very seldom be classified under geography-travel, or geography-history and description. There is no place at all for a work on economic geography. How, then, in taking a new position at a college or when organizing a department, is a teacher to know just what is on hand? Or, if on hand, in how many places is it necessary to look? To illustrate the lack of a systematic treatment for books in this category, here is how several works of a definite geographic nature were classified in one library:

- 320.19 Political Geography
- 333.14 World Resources and Industries
- 380.13 Trade Centers and Trade Routes
- 537 Influence of Geographic Environment
- 914.2 Political Geography of the British Empire
- 980 Latin America

Secondly, how will the librarian catalog our list of books or similar new accessions? Will it be under geography? An important associated question is, how many librarians think of the geography department when they put new books in these areas: meteorology, minerals, population problems, soils, trees? We are asking if either a greatly expanded place for geography might be made in the Dewey system, or a separate series of duplicate cards and card catalog drawers can be supplied for geography, with sub-headings of the courses or systematic fields.

In a recent study by Professor Alfred

H. Meyer,<sup>6</sup> of Valparaiso University, a survey was made of a number of libraries to determine how they had classified geographical materials in the past and suggestions as to how they might be handled in the future. It was noted by several students of this subject that the classification unit 910.1 is at present unassigned, and the cataloger of the University of Idaho Library, Nancy Atkinson, observed that "for the special library or the university library catering to a strong geography department this expansion could be made as minute as desired." Meyer goes on to demonstrate how a subject classification for geography could be developed under 910.1, thus bringing together practically all of the books in this field in a logical arrangement. Since it would require the reproduction of two large charts to adequately explain it, no attempt will be made here to go into a detailed description of the plan. Suffice it to say that it is perhaps the most rational solution that thus far has been advanced, one that merits further study and consideration by those concerned with this problem.

There are a number of publications all over the world devoted to geography. The following, however, must be considered as essential to any college or university offering courses in this field:

- Economic Geography*
- Geographical Journal*
- Geographical Review*
- Journal of Geography*

Others which should be added are the *National Geographic Magazine* and the *Beaver*, the latter, published by the Hudson Bay Company, being especially good for material on the north country. Certain periodicals which have ceased publication, such as *Asia*, for example, are still good sources for the student. The *Bulletin of the Pan American Union* and the *United Nations World* both

<sup>6</sup> Meyer, Alfred H., "A Geographical Classification of Geography Material as Based Upon the Dewey Classification System." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, v. 37, no. 4, December 1947.

contain articles helpful to geographic studies.

Because of their great statistical value and the broad scope of their subject matter, government documents are indispensable to the study of modern geography. The United States Government alone, as every librarian knows, issues a vast quantity of printed matter, including such important serials as the *Monthly Weather Review*, *Foreign Commerce Weekly*, *Foreign Crops and Markets*, and *Industrial Reference Service*. The *Annual Territorial Reports* offer much information on the U. S. Territories of Puerto Rico, Hawaii and Alaska, while the *Colonial Reports* of Great Britain furnish information on the Dominions. Almost every government has an information service which issues publications for free distribution. They contain reams of propaganda, of course, but useful geographic matter is also frequently found. For a list of official maps issued by various countries Thiele's *Official Map Publications*, although twelve years old, is a very useful reference tool.

The publications of the American Geographical Society cover a wide variety of geographic subjects and are

among the most important appearing in this field. Unfortunately, many of their titles are out of print and are no longer available.

The *Shaw List for College Libraries* is adequate, as far as it goes. The books listed in the first *Shaw* are, for the most part, outmoded, while those published in the second *Shaw* contain no titles published after 1938. It must further be observed that in geography, *Shaw* omits many books which should not be omitted, and includes some that are of dubious merit.

The rapid increase in population in recent times has created new social problems. Writing several years ago in the *New Statesman and Nation*, the British critic and author, Mr. V. S. Pritchett, observed that in the England of Henry Fielding's time (two centuries ago) the population was six million; today it is forty-five million. Geographic and detailed study of an area's productive capacity might eliminate one of man's ancient enemies: famine. The relationship between political geography and economic geography, if better understood, would aid greatly in solving some of the more urgent problems which beset so many countries at the moment.



## Highlights from the SLA Executive Board and Advisory Council Meetings

(Continued from page 121)

compared with the same date a year previous. For this purpose, Associate members count one, Active two, Institutional three, and Life three, the first year and two every year thereafter. Student and Sustaining members are not counted.

A decision was made to purchase a new mimeograph machine and a plastic disc recorder. By means of the recorder the Association will be able to have verbatim records of its meetings at very little operating cost. Approval was given for using a better grade of paper for SPECIAL LIBRARIES. It was also voted

that, whenever possible, the decision on the location for Conventions be made at least two years in advance. This is in accord with the recommendation of the Toronto Chapter last fall.

The Executive Board, following a recommendation made by the Group itself, approved the discontinuance of the University and College Group, subject to a vote of the members at the June Business Meeting. I should like to emphasize that this discontinuance applies only to the Group at the Association level and has no effect on local Groups wherever they may be active.

RUTH HOOKER, *President*.

# A Protest Against the Proposed Changes in SLA Membership

*Miss Smith is a member of the staff of the Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.*

THE PROPONENTS of the proposed revisions of the SLA Constitution and By-Laws assert that these changes have been devised as a solution to the problems arising from the unprecedented growth of the Association and its shift from a homogeneous to a heterogeneous membership. They state that it is essential to underline the observance of professional standards by setting up specific qualifications to be met by the members in order to fit them into the Association as it is now defined. (See Proposed Changes, Article I, NAME AND OBJECT)

I should like to say here that I am not involved personally in the proposed revision for Active membership, which limits eligibility to those "actively engaged in the administration, or as professional staff members, of a special library including special departments of public and university libraries . . ." (Article II, Section 2). I cannot, therefore, be accused of placing my personal welfare above that of the organization. Indeed, it is with the good of SLA in mind that I wish to register my earnest protest against the proposal which would eliminate alert, desirable members simply because they are not working in a special library, or in a special department of a college or public library.

In library work, as in perhaps no other, all is grist for the mill—any in-

formation gained can be put to use sooner or later. Many of those who joined SLA did so because it could give them what they did not find in other professional organizations—the stimulation of subject matter into which to sink their teeth, and, in my opinion, that is a legitimate reason for joining any organization, and one that should be honored by the Association itself.

Moreover, it does not follow that because a librarian is not in a special field he will take all and give nothing. For one thing, some of the subject Groups cover such a wide variety of interests that no one can safely draw a line of demarcation; for another, a librarian working in a general library may have a subject specialty avocationally and be in a prime position to make a significant contribution to the Group.

I cannot agree that there is a dichotomy in librarianship. There are librarians who are employed in special libraries, in general libraries, public or college libraries—they are all *librarians*. Their capacity to perform their work varies respectively according to preparation, native ability and attitude; from my point of view there are no "special" librarians or "general" librarians. All of us, if we are professionally adequate, have a basic philosophy of librarianship which may be applied in any type of library. An individual who is well grounded in the fundamentals of his profession could move with relative ease from a business library to a college library, or to a public library, with some briefing and a degree of imagination.



Another point which makes this matter of division absurd is exemplified in the college library in which the writer is employed. The present head of the Order Department, an administrative section, is, within a few weeks, to take over the Education Department of the Library. As chief of the Order Department, under the Proposed Revisions, she does not qualify for Active membership; as chief of the Education Department, which is concerned with a subject area, she will fall within the pale. A few feet away from her desk in the Education Department are the general reference librarians who do not meet the requirements of "special" librarians. All of the librarians on this staff serve the same community, the same students, the same library, and are concerned with the same objectives.

If professional standards are the objective then the Proposed Revisions (Article II, Section 2 and 6) are failing in their expressed purpose. Any group which wishes to be regarded as professional in all that the term implies, must take cognizance of the obligations imposed by such recognition. The Affiliate membership, "individuals engaged in sub-professional capacities in a special library, engaged in other types of libraries or in statistical or research work," according to the interpretation of the Chairman of the Constitution Committee, is a provision which offers professional librarians in general libraries the dubious privilege of sharing with sub-professional workers, an emasculated membership, without voting rights

and Group affiliation! By this token, the Librarian of Congress might presumably be acceptable in this restricted membership along with, for example, the secretary to the librarian in a business organization.

There is no reason to believe that a large group of "non-special" librarians would divert the stated purpose of the Association to serve their own ends. Most librarians in public and college libraries, particularly in state and municipally supported institutions, enjoy a greater degree of security than those in special libraries. The personnel of public and college libraries are members of the American Library Association and other organizations which seek to protect their vital interests. The librarians of the New York City College have an association which has successfully maintained desirable standards of the libraries and furthered the general welfare of the librarians. These people are in a position to bring to SLA a sense of well-being and security which might prove wholesomely contagious.

In the last analysis, no one joins an organization as a matter of whim. Should not interest entitle one to membership, other requirements having been fulfilled? SLA provides the unique opportunity for all librarians of all professional "color" and "creed" to meet on common ground and share their ideas and arrive at solutions for numerous problems. Each one contributes in his own way. The Association has much to lose and little to gain by excluding a corps of valuable members.

## SLA Constitution Revision

### Excerpts from Letters to the Editor

"What will happen to Chapters if Associate members, University and College Group members, Institutional members of Public and University libraries are dropped? We estimate an immediate loss of one-half to three-fifths of our membership should the proposed con-

stitutional changes be adopted. How long thereafter a Chapter, which loses 30 of its 50 members, can flourish remains to be seen."

RICHARD C. GREMLING, *President*  
Kansas City Chapter.

"The proposed revisions of the Constitution of the Special Libraries Association, especially those affecting membership, are of the utmost concern to me. After serious study of the proposed changes, I am convinced that they would be most harmful to the organization because:

1. Such undemocratic procedure would not increase the professional standing of the organization, but rather would reflect badly on it and its members.
2. Inevitably, many valuable active members would lose their Group affiliation and, thus, their established contribution would be lost to the Group.
3. Many new members would not qualify for Active membership and, thus, their potential contribution would be lost to the Group and they, in their turn, would miss the stimulation which Group affiliation should provide.

"These last two points are of extreme importance to the Museum Group because of the nature of the institutions represented. What, in one institution, constitutes special library work as recognized by the proposed Constitution would, in a second or third, have no connection with the library and so, automatically, the librarians would not qualify for Active membership. In other institutions where no library as such has been established, special library members are doing professional research and library work. They, too, would be disqualified as Active members.

"Such blanket, undemocratic standards have no place in a professional organization, especially in one whose members should be devoted to broadening the outlook and thinking of the persons within their range of influence.

"It is to be earnestly hoped that each member of the Association will carefully consider all points and come to the Convention prepared to vote intelligently."

MRS. GRACE W. BANKER, *Chairman*  
Museum Group.

\* \* \*

"In regard to the proposed membership revisions of the Constitution and By-Laws, I hereby raise my voice in support of the dissenters.

"In the first place, it is by no means obvious that the draft revisions will result in a strengthened Association. How can the automatic elimination, for example, of all university, college and public library staff members other than those in special library departments, enhance the professional character of the Association? The absurdity of the new qualifications for Active membership is very well illustrated in the situation at Brooklyn College Library. Here, under the new proposals, the writer, a reference librarian, would no longer be eligible for membership, whereas

her colleague in charge of the new Teacher Education Room would, and this regardless of the fact that the Teacher Education reference books and tools were only a few short weeks ago serviced and administered by the general reference librarians! Both Teacher Education and general reference librarians serve the same community and students and are concerned with achieving the same objectives.

"A second reason why the membership revisions are unsound, it seems to me, lies precisely in the matter of relationship between special and general librarianship. The two are different phases of one profession; no dichotomy exists. Rose L. Vormelker, in her paper<sup>1</sup> presented at the First General Session of the 1949 SLA Convention in Los Angeles, California, June 13, emphasized that one cannot today define a special librarian by contrasting him with a public librarian, as such. "Experience as the general reference librarian in a public library," she said, "has been the basis for success in advertising agencies and motion picture studios." Furthermore, most general reference librarians engage in the following eight of the twelve services cited by Miss Vormelker as performed by special librarians: collecting information on any one subject or subjects pertinent to the organization's work; classifying and cataloging the same; indexing materials not indexed elsewhere; clipping and filing data of various kinds; suggesting sources of information often not even in print; preparing reading lists as needed or on demand; answering reference questions; taking part in conferences. That relatively few reference librarians make literature searches, prepare abstracts and translations, or execute public relations programs necessary to keep and develop special library service does not seem to me sufficient reason to exclude them from the opportunity for membership in SLA.

"It is, in the final analysis, by means of the professional help and stimulating contacts of such lively organizations as SLA that individual librarians grow in capacity for successful work. The arbitrary exclusion, therefore, from membership eligibility of non-special librarians can strengthen neither SLA nor the library profession. Indeed, when public and college librarians, who are already members of the American Library Association and other library organizations, seek to join SLA, it would seem that this interest (along with the fulfillment of necessary requirements) should, in a democratic society, certainly entitle them to membership."

ANTOINETTE CIOLLI, *Reference Librarian*,  
Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

<sup>1</sup> SPECIAL LIBRARIES, Vol. 40, pp. 359-99, 1949.

"The list of standing committees in the proposed constitutional revision does not contain the Chapter and Group Relations Committees nor are the reasons for abolishing them given. If SLA can function better without them, then by all means let us omit them. In making the decision, members should know that these committees were appointed at the request of the Executive Board by Miss Cole, in 1947, upon specific recommendations made by the committee she appointed to study SLA organization and structure. (See *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 38:144-145, 1947.) The request for these committees was based upon answers to questionnaires to members and the overall objective was to achieve continuity in relations of the Association with its Groups and Chapters. An immediate objective was the preparation of Group and Chapter manuals. A third objective was to assist the Group and Chapter Liaison Officers in any assignment

they received such as the present one of gathering news for the pages in *SPECIAL LIBRARIES*. We have been particularly fortunate in having chairmen of these committees who have given themselves wholeheartedly to their tasks. If it is their judgment that they can function efficiently alone, then may we hear it from them? Even so, I question the plan to choose the G.L.O. and the C.L.O. from among the Directors. We need more Directors who are free to share special committee work sure to arise during any year. How can we be certain that a Director will have the qualities needed by the Group and Chapter Liaison Officers? Last, but important, is that the liaison function between the members and the Board may not be preserved if they are chosen from the Board members."

IRENE M. STRIEBY, *Librarian*,  
Eli Lilly & Co., Indianapolis, Indiana.

## SLA Chapter Highlights

The purpose of Chapter reports is to give an account of their administration and activities, which in turn not only provides a historical record of local Groups, but furnishes facts which are significant to the trends of Special Libraries Association. This the reports of the Chapter presidents certainly do, despite the fact that because there is no definition as to the information to be included, there is wide variety in their content and format.

It is impossible to reproduce all of the semi-annual Chapter reports, or even the full condensation of those reports, in this column; mimeographed copies of the complete report of the Chapter Liaison Officer covering the 1949-1950 semi-annual Chapter reports has been sent to each Chapter president. Highlights here will be restricted to two points of interest, one regarding local membership in Chapters, and the other, Group activities of Chapters. It is to be remembered that the information is incomplete, since the reports of two Chapters were too late to be included, and other Chapters did not respond to the questions put them. Despite this fact, however, the findings are of interest.

### LOCAL MEMBERSHIPS WITHIN CHAPTERS

There was no information available for six Chapters: LOUISIANA, MICHIGAN, NEW JERSEY, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, BALTIMORE, and ILLINOIS. There are four Chapters known to have local memberships: BOSTON, MILWAUKEE, PHILADELPHIA, INDIANA. The number of these local memberships is not known, but the usual local membership fee is \$2 or under, the lowest being 50 cents. Local membership usually carries the privilege of attending meetings and

receiving the Chapter bulletin, but does not permit election to office, although in some instances members serve on committees.

Comments from these Chapters having local membership are of interest and significant: The PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER maintains a local membership . . . "as a means of introducing librarians into our fellowship who are not financially able to assume the obligations of national membership. It also serves as a sort of introductory offer to new members to join our organization on a trial basis and many later become national members. The local Chapter of SLA is the only active library organization in the area, and, as such, it attracts many librarians from the public libraries and from colleges and universities who are not special librarians in the strictest sense of the word. These librarians like to attend our meetings and enjoy the professional contacts which are available. On the other side, local special librarians have also found these contacts helpful. Special librarians often call upon the staffs of these general libraries for assistance, and it has been helpful to have their advice and counsel at our meetings."

". . . the BOSTON CHAPTER existed before the formation of the national SLA, and thus had many members who were not essentially special librarians. Local membership has been retained during the years to allow interested individuals to enjoy and to participate in the activities of the Chapter. We feel that the arrangement has been mutually beneficial."

In the INDIANA CHAPTER, ". . . Local membership has been maintained since the Chapter was established. This practice probably was

necessitated because local people formed the nucleus of the group, before it became affiliated with the national Association."

Of the fifteen Chapters known to be without any local membership, two Chapters reported that this type of membership has been considered. The CLEVELAND CHAPTER has discussed local membership at "Executive Board meetings in connection with the revision of the Chapter Constitution, and it was decided that the question should be discussed again after the Association has taken action on the proposed revisions of the Constitution dealing with membership." The KANSAS CITY CHAPTER has also considered the idea in view of possible changes in the Association organization.

Thus we see that six of the twenty-five Chapters—twenty-five percent—are now inclined to local membership. A few Chapters, e.g., PHILADELPHIA, MILWAUKEE, and KANSAS CITY, report that no active membership drives have been made this year pending possible changes in the Association Constitution. The effects of a possible growth in local memberships on the Association is a factor which should be considered in revising membership requirements.

#### CHAPTER-ASSOCIATION GROUP STRUCTURE

There are six Chapters in which organized Groups are active; eleven with no organized Groups; and four unknown. Those Chapters reporting separate Groups are BOSTON—(1) Science-Technology; PITTSBURGH—(2) Science-Technology and University and College; MICHIGAN—(2) Science-Technology and Advertising; WESTERN NEW YORK—(1) Hospital and Nursing; WASHINGTON—(9) Biological

Sciences, Business, Fine Arts, Geography and Map, Legislative Reference, Science-Technology, Social Science, Transportation and University and College, each of which hold separate meetings; NEW YORK—(13) Advertising, Biological Sciences, Financial, Geography and Map, Hospital and Nursing, Insurance, Museum, Newspaper, Publishing, Religious, Science-Technology, Social Science and Transportation; INDIANA—(1) Hospital and Nursing; SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA—(3) Biological Sciences, Science-Technology and Social Science, each of which is responsible for one of the general Chapter meetings and holds at least one separate meeting a year.

Those Chapters with no organized groups are: TORONTO, CLEVELAND, KANSAS CITY, MINNESOTA, NEW JERSEY, PUGET SOUND, MONTREAL, TEXAS, GREATER ST. LOUIS, SAN FRANCISCO, and CINCINNATI. Several of these Chapters report that a large part of their membership belongs to the Science-Technology Group, i.e., CINCINNATI, CLEVELAND and NEW JERSEY; KANSAS CITY having a Science-Technology chairman but holding no separate meetings; and TEXAS reporting a Science-Technology representative.

It is significant that there is no relation or correlation between the activities of Groups on the Association level, and the activities of Groups on the local Chapter level. The establishment or even abolition of an Association Group in no way affects Chapter activity. Chapters are autonomous in respect to the organization and administration of local Groups.

MARGARET P. HILLIGAN,

*Chapter Liaison Officer and Chairman,  
Chapter Relations Committee.*

## SLA Group Highlights

The BUSINESS GROUP in its February 1950 *Bulletin* continues the worthwhile task of an evaluation of a business service. This time the publication reviewed is the *International Business and Investment Service*. A bibliography of books on marketing and management suitable for the business library of a large university library is also included in this *Bulletin*.

Selling the library to management reaches a high note in the February *Bulletin of the INSURANCE GROUP*. Plans are under way for Elizabeth Ferguson to write an article for the insurance salesman on the importance of books, and another for the *Journal of American Society of Chartered Life Underwriters*. Three members of the Group have recently received publicity in insurance journals. They are Angelica Blomshild, Abbie Glover and Elizabeth Ferguson, while a fourth member,

Hazel Levins, received newspaper and radio publicity for her research on a Lincoln quotation.

As one might anticipate, the new attractive letterhead of the PUBLISHING GROUP is representative of the efforts of the typographical experts in this field. The February issue which carries this new design is devoted to full details of the Convention program at Atlantic City. The Group plans to repeat the exhibit of publications which received so much favorable publicity at Los Angeles. One hundred and seventy-six members are listed in the new directory of the Group which is published as a supplement to the current issue of the *Bulletin*.

SARA M. PRICE,

*Group Liaison Officer and Chairman,  
Group Relations Committee.*

# New Institutional Members

NOVEMBER 1 — DECEMBER 31, 1949

American Gas Association Testing Laboratories  
Miss Jeanne McCarthy, Librarian  
1032 East 62nd Street  
Cleveland 3, Ohio

The Bell Telephone Company of Canada  
Miss Mary F. Price, Chief Librarian  
Company Library  
1050 Beaver Hall Hill  
Montreal 1, Quebec, Canada

Bolidens Gruvaktiebolag  
Mr. S. Walden, Chief Engineer  
Research Station, Laboratory  
Skelleftehamn, Sweden

Burroughs Adding Machine Company  
Miss Gretchen E. Runge, Librarian  
Research Division  
511 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia 23, Pennsylvania

Mr. Sidney W. Dean, Jr.  
630 Fifth Avenue  
New York 20, New York

Gulf Oil Corporation  
Mr. G. M. Blake  
Law Department  
P. O. Box 2100  
Houston 1, Texas

John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co.  
Miss Marjorie Holt, Librarian  
Berkeley Street  
Boston 17, Massachusetts

Lexington Herald-Leader  
Mr. Franklin F. Roberts, Librarian  
237 West Short Street  
Lexington 15, Kentucky

Pitman-Moore Company  
Mrs. Esther M. Goettling, Librarian  
1200 Madison Street  
Indianapolis 6, Indiana

Popular Science Monthly  
Miss Minerva Katz, Librarian  
Information Library  
353 Fourth Avenue  
New York 10, New York

Providence Washington Insurance Company  
Dr. Franz E. Robinow, Librarian  
20 Washington Place  
Providence, Rhode Island

Purdue University Libraries  
Mr. John H. Moriarty, Director  
Lafayette, Indiana

Rand McNally & Company  
Miss Marion Janssen, Librarian  
536 South Clark Street  
Chicago 5, Illinois

Rider College Memorial Library  
Miss Helen Hanlon, Asst. Librarian  
Trenton 9, New Jersey

Tide Water Associated Oil Company  
Mrs. Charles F. Pohl, Librarian  
Filing Department  
17 Battery Place  
New York 4, New York

Yale Medical Library  
Mr. Frederick G. Kilgour, Librarian  
333 Cedar Street  
New Haven 11, Connecticut



# SLA Publications

CUMULATIVE STATEMENT ON PUBLICATIONS IN PRINT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1949

Date	Name of Publication	Cost	No. Printed	Inst. Given	Copies Sold	Total Receipts To Date
1937	Social Welfare: Subject Headings List.....	\$ 293.25	1,000	.....†	463	\$ 411.00
1937	Guides to Business Facts and Figures.....	557.69	1,500	.....†	832	1,144.39
‡1946&47	Special Library Resources, Vol. 2-4.....	19,658.72	1,000	.....†	905 (Sets)	15,127.72
1944	Handbook of Commercial, Financial and Inf. Services.....	2,221.47	2,000	282	1,448	4,234.94
1945	Classification and Cataloging of Maps and Atlases.....	3,019.02	1,000	.....	957	7,685.23
1945	List of Subject Headings for Chemistry Libraries.....	521.08	1,500	134	880	1,403.43
1947	Union List of Technical Periodicals.....	2,321.29	1,300	415	616	3,665.40
1949	Aviation Subject Headings.....	526.95	1,000	239	195	339.25
1949	Classification Schemes and Subject Headings List.....	5.00	225	.....	66	82.50
1949	Brief for Corporation Libraries.....	700.73	1,500	395	322	561.75
1949	Creation and Development of An Insurance Library.....	366.10	1,000	238	139	275.10
1949	Subject Headings for Aeronautical Engineering Libraries	1,311.73	1,000	205	112	404.00
1949	Numerical Index to the Bibliography of Scientific and Industrial Reports, Vols. 1-10.....	3,912.06	1,000	.....	404	4,130.00
† No records kept.						
	‡ Special Library Resources Vol. 1 (Now out of Print).....	5,178.39	1,500	.....	1,169	6,552.00

# Off the Press<sup>1</sup>

In cooperation with the Library of Congress, the American Microfilm Center has drawn up plans for the microfilming of the *Congressional Record* since 1873, the first year of its publication by the Federal Government. Designed especially for libraries and educational institutions, the 35mm. film will be available at a base rate of \$6 per 1000 pages. Approximately 628,000 pages are involved.

The film is to be prepared for the American Microfilm Center by the Photoduplication Service of the Library of Congress under the terms of an arrangement whereby the original negative will be deposited in the Library. The complete film will occupy several cubic feet of space. The printed version of the *Congressional Record* occupies as much space as several thousand books of average size. For further information write to the American Microfilm Center, 2153 Florida Ave., Washington 8, D. C.

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AIRLINE RECORD which was first published in 1948 gave the first complete traffic and financial picture of the major commercial airlines. The 1949 edition is a revised, greatly expanded book incorporating current data and many important new features. Data for the individual airlines have been arranged to facilitate making comparisons. All companies are treated under a systematic and uniform series of headings: Routes, History, Description and Management, Revenue Traffic Statistics, Income Accounts, Payroll and Income Analyses, Balance Sheets, Capitalization and Financial Ratios, as well as individual Historical Financial Summaries. (Chicago, Illinois, Roy R. Roadcap, Publisher, 208 South La Salle Street, 1949. \$7.50)

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The University and Special Libraries Issue of *The Library Association Record* for November 1949 contains a particularly interesting article on "Reference Service in the Metal Box Industry" by D. J. Foskett.

\* \* \*

The International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, in cooperation with the Population Association of America, calls attention to three major sources of current information on population. Each of these peri-

odicals is international in scope. Based on the belief that, in view of rising public interest in population problems, wider dissemination of current scientific information on this subject is imperative, these publications are listed below:

*Population Index*, published by the Office of Population Research, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, and the Population Association of America, presents a current annotated world bibliography on publications in this field, supplemented in each issue by notes on selected items of special interest and by current statistical series. (Princeton, N. J., Princeton University, Pyne Administration Bldg., Office of Population Research)

*Population Studies*, published by The Population Investigation Committee of Great Britain in cooperation with an international Board of Editors, is the unique English-language vehicle for scientific articles in this field. (New York 10, N. Y., Cambridge University Press, 51 Madison Avenue)

*Population*, published by l'Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques (Paris), includes contributions from scientists in various countries dealing with all aspects of population problems. (New York 17, N. Y., Mr. Gregory Young, American Agent, 11 East 45th Street)

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As an aid to better understanding of the problems presented by the system of Federal excise taxes, and the movement for repealing many of them, the Library of Congress has issued a *Public Affairs Bulletin* entitled *Federal Excise Taxes*. It is a revision of an earlier bulletin, issued under the same title in 1947. The publication summarizes the arguments for and against excise taxes in general, and for and against each of 37 taxes or groups of taxes. Rates and revenues are given for each of the taxes.

Prepared by Raymond E. Manning in the Legislative Reference Service of the Library, *Federal Excise Taxes* is No. 72 in the *Public Affairs Bulletin Series*. It comprises 104 multilithed pages and may be purchased from the Card Division, the Library of Congress, Washington 25, D. C. for 70 cents a copy.

\* \* \*

The ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WOODROW WILSON FOUNDATION FOR 1948-1949 contains a chapter on the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Library which celebrated its twentieth anniversary in May 1949. Written by Harriet Van Wyck, Librarian, this is a lively account of the Library's services, scope, special collec-

<sup>1</sup> Where it is possible the Editor has given prices for publications noted in this section. The omission of a price does not necessarily indicate that the publication is free.

tions, Wilsoniana and bibliographical service. The *Report* may be borrowed from SLA headquarters.

\* \* \*

THE LIBRARY'S PUBLIC, a report of the Public Library Inquiry, aims to report what public libraries actually do—who the 25,000,000 registered library-users are, how often they use the library, and what direction the trend in public library use and popular attitudes toward libraries is taking. Dr. Bernard Berelson, the author, is Dean of the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago. (New York, N. Y., Columbia University Press, 1949. 174pp. \$3)

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS FOR THE CITIZEN by James L. McCamy is a report of the Public Library Inquiry. Dr. McCamy surveys the scope and present machinery for publication and distribution of government information to the general reader. He centers his attention on the publications themselves—their purposes, content and actual function, and the various agencies, federal, state and local, public and private, which take part in the distributive process. It is his conclusion that the public library should play a leading part in the dispersion of this information to a wide audience, and he proposes consideration of a comprehensive program to develop such a system. (New York, N. Y., Columbia University Press, 1949. 139pp. \$2.50)

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Copies of "Contributions to the Data on Theoretical Metallurgy; X. High-Temperature Heat-Content, Heat-Capacity, and Entropy Data for Inorganic Compounds," by K. K. Kelley, are available as long as they last free-of-charge from American Iron and Steel Institute, 350 Fifth Ave., New York 1, New York.

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The INTERNATIONAL LABOR DIRECTORY, which is the first of its kind in the history of the labor movement, was commenced two years ago in order to provide the public, labor unions, government agencies and others with a complete index of labor organizations and labor leaders. The DIRECTORY is bound into a single volume and contains more than 1400 pages of listings. It includes names, addresses and personnel of all national, international and state organizations, a complete break-down of international unions including their officers, departments, councils and locals, a listing of all federal and state government agencies dealing with labor, labor publications and labor press, labor editors, labor schools, labor lawyers and other listings of organizations func-

tionally associated with the labor movement. (New York 1, N. Y., Claridge Publishing Corp., 110 West 34th Street, 1950.)

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"Some Problems of a Multi-Centred Library" is the title of a reprint of a paper read at the South African Library Association's annual conference in Durban in 1948. Dr. Herbert Coblans, the author, is librarian (on leave) of the University of Natal, Durban, South Africa. He is now serving as Librarian of UNESCO in Paris. Dr. Coblans was a guest at the March 1949 Advisory Council meeting of SLA when he was in the United States on a Carnegie fellowship. This paper may be borrowed from SLA Headquarters.

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PROSPECTS OF EMPLOYMENT IN BRITISH LIBRARIES was prepared by the Library Association in response to numerous inquiries from librarians from all parts of the world for details of the prospects of obtaining employment in British libraries either on a permanent or temporary basis. Copies are available on request to The Secretary, Library Association, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1, England.

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The January 1950 issue of *Standardization* carries an article by William H. Cady entitled "An Examination of Scientific Periodicals," which discusses the lack of system in the arrangement of the reference data in various journals.

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The MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY OF THE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS RESEARCH ASSOCIATION lists all of the members as of October 1, 1949, alphabetically and geographically, and most of them by occupation. Reference to standard biographical works is included to facilitate the finding of more complete information since previous positions and publications prior to 1948 are not included in this listing. IRRA publications are available to libraries and other non-members on a subscription basis. The annual subscription rate is \$5. (Champaign, Illinois, William H. McPherson, Secretary-Treasurer of the Association, 704 South Sixth Street)

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ADVERTISING DICTIONARY OF SELLING WORDS, PHRASES, AND APPEALS by Harvey Ronson is an organized compilation of tested advertising copy phrases and selling appeals designed to help copywriters present their ideas to the buying public. A useful reference tool, the DICTIONARY has been described as "the copywriter's Roget." (New York 10, N. Y., Ronald Press Company, 1949. 365pp. \$5)



SOURCES FOR THE STUDY OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE is a report prepared by Dorothy Campbell Tompkins of the Bureau of Public Administration, University of California, for the Special Crime Study Commissions and the California State Board of Corrections. This should be of interest to students and officials interested in and concerned with the administration of criminal law. (Sacramento, California, State Division of Printing, Documents Section, 11th and O Streets, 1949. 294pp. \$1.28)

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A list of surplus copies of periodicals in the 3151st Electronics Group, Watson Laboratories, AMC, Red Bank, New Jersey, has been prepared by Charlotte Bauman, Librarian. Anyone interested in this list may write Miss Bauman for further information. The list is also available on loan from SLA Headquarters.

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CHECK LIST OF U.S.A. AND CANADIAN HOLDINGS OF GERMAN MEDICAL AND DENTAL PERIODICALS, 1939-1948 is a recent publication of the American Medical Association and is designed to help ease work and reduce uncertainties until a new edition of the UNION LIST shall appear. This material may be borrowed from SLA Headquarters.

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PUBLIC RECORDS MANAGEMENT by Philip C. Brooks is publication No. 103 of Public Administration Service. No attempt has been made to give this pamphlet the character of an operating manual. Rather, its prime purpose is to present in simple language the things every public official should know about public records and the steps he should take with respect to those in his own office or agency. It seeks to outline general principles which can be applied, with appropriate modifications, to any office producing or housing records of public business. (Chicago, Illinois, Public Administration Service, 1313 East 60th Street, 1949. \$1)

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PRINCIPLES OF BIBLIOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION is by Fredson Bowers, Professor of English at the University of Virginia. In this volume, Mr. Bowers makes a complete analysis of the descriptive principles which guide a bibliography. From these principles, he develops the methods by which each part of a book is described according to a standard system which can be commonly understood. Each step in the description is explained in detail and illustrated by numerous examples which cover both the usual and the special problems encountered by the bibliographer. (Princeton, New Jersey, Princeton University Press. 1949. 505pp. \$10)

PATENT TACTICS AND LAW is a timely, dependable guide to air-tight patent protection. The need for the third revision of this work was urgent as, effective March 1, 1949, the *Rules of Practice* of the Patent Office were completely revised, rewritten and renumbered. This work will be of inestimable value in helping business executives, industrial engineers, inventors and patent attorneys to steer a clear, trouble-free course in all patent matters. The author, Roger Sherman Hoar, is commercial attorney of Bucyrus-Erie Company. (New York, N. Y., Ronald Press, 1950. 352pp. \$7)

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MARKETING RESEARCH PRACTICE by Donald M. Hobart is addressed primarily to present practitioners of marketing research throughout industry and to those students of the subject who soon will be its practitioners. It is mainly concerned with the application of those theories on which marketing research is based, and with the methods and techniques that have been developed and used as workable solutions to sales, distribution, marketing and advertising problems. (New York, N. Y., Ronald Press, 1950. 471pp. \$5)

\* \* \*

THE DIRECTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICE POINTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA is the outcome of an inquiry conducted in September 1949 by the University of Cape Town Libraries' Photographic Department into photographic reproduction services in Southern Africa. The aim of the inquiry was to ascertain who was offering photographic services not only to their own institutions but also who was willing and equipped to extend such services to others.

The inquiry covered libraries, archives, museums and art galleries in Southern Africa. This DIRECTORY may be borrowed from SLA Headquarters.

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#### *Bibliographies:*

BUSINESS LETTER WRITING is a guide to letters that will build good will, sell a product, apply for a job or build up a business. Foreign language terms and general business correspondence are also covered. Over 50 books are listed and briefly annotated. Periodicals in the field are also included. (Cleveland, Ohio, Business Information Bureau, Cleveland Public Library, 1949. 8p. 10¢)

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merit. Copies are available without cost upon request to the School of Journalism, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.

**OUTSTANDING RELIGIOUS BOOKS OF 1948-49.** Selected by the Book Selection Committee, Religious Books Round Table, American Library Association. Reprinted by the Milwaukee Public Library from the *Library Journal*, September 1, 1949.

**PALLETS USED IN MODERN MATERIALS HANDLING** is a comprehensive list of 114 books and periodical articles published from 1937 to date and covering all aspects of the subject of pallets, including the design and construction of the different types, the handling of various materials on pallets, the savings achieved in materials handling and details of present-day applications in individual plants in a large number of industries. (New York, N. Y., Engineering Societies Library, 29 West 39th Street, 1949) \$2

**REVIEW OF LITERATURE ON CONDITIONING AIR FOR ADVANCEMENT OF HEALTH AND SAFETY IN MINES, Pt. 3.** (U. S. Bureau of Mines, *Information Circular Series* 1949)

**SELECTED AND ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LITERATURE ON RETAILING** by Aaron Hamilton Chute. (Austin, Texas, The University of Texas, College of Business Administration, Bureau of Business Research 1949)

**SELECTED LIST OF REFERENCES ON MINERALS AND RELATED SUBJECTS** by D. C. Runner. (U. S. Bureau of Mines, *Information Circular Series* 1949)

**SPRAYS.** Compiled by Kalman J. DeNularz. (The Texas Company, Refining Department, Technical and Research Division, 135 East 42nd Street, N. Y., 1948) 98pp.

**STATE ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION** is a list of references on selected problems with special reference to the Michigan situation. Prepared by Ione E. Dority, Chief Librarian and Research Associate, Bureau of Government, University of Michigan. (Ann Arbor, Michigan, Bureau of Government, University of Michigan, 1950)

**STUDIES IN INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION** lists 2,002 graduate studies in the field of industrial education, including industrial arts education, vocational industrial education and technical education. (Washington 5, D. C., American Vocational Association, Inc., 1010 Vermont Avenue, N.W., 1949) \$1

**THE CATHOLIC BOOKLIST 1950** is an annotated bibliography, for the most part Catholic in authorship or subject matter, chosen as a guide to the recreational and instructional reading of Catholics. Edited for the Catholic Library Association by Sister Stella Maris. (St. Catharine, Kentucky, St. Catharine Junior College, 1949) 65¢

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## **Special Libraries Association**

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## Have you heard....

### **Notice of Annual Meeting**

As required by By-Law VIII, Section 1, notice is hereby given that the Annual Business Meeting of Special Libraries Association will be held Thursday, June 15, 1950, at the Chalfonte-Haddon-Hall Hotel, Atlantic City, New Jersey, in connection with the Annual Convention of the Association.

RUTH H. HOOKER, *President*

KATHLEEN B. STEBBINS, *Secretary*

### **University of Chicago Graduate Library School Conference on Bibliographic Organization**

The Fifteenth Annual Conference (formerly Institute) of the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago will be held July 24-29, 1950, on the subject of "Bibliographic Organization."

The topics to be covered during the Conference will include the special functions of bibliographic devices; the historical development of new types as literature changes and grows; the adequacy of existing services in the various subject fields, with special attention to specific problems in a few selected areas; the role of classification in the newer types of bibliographic devices; and the development of electronic and other machines, with their possible uses.

A leaflet describing the detailed program of the Conference will be available upon request in the spring of 1950. For further information address the Dean of the Graduate Library School, University of Chicago.

### **Dr. Pulling Accepts New Position**

As of February 1, 1950, Dr. Hazel Pulling, Chairman of the 1949 SLA Convention in Los Angeles, assumed the duties of Assistant Dean of the School of Library Training and Service, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida. Dr. Pulling was formerly affiliated with the Graduate School of Library Science, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California.

### **SLA Member Recipient of Department of Commerce Award**

Sarah Ann Jones, Librarian of the U. S. Bureau of Standards Library in Washington, D. C., is the recipient of the Department of Commerce Silver Medal for service of unusual value to the Department.

These awards are part of the Department's program to give fuller recognition to individual employes for exceptional service. The

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presentation was made by Secretary of Commerce Charles Sawyer, at a ceremony held in Washington on February 14, 1950.

The citation read:

"For long and outstanding service in the development and maintenance of the National Bureau of Standards Library, through which the world's literature on science, technology, and mathematics, has been made available to Bureau scientists."

#### SLA 1952 Convention?

The SLA Executive Board would like to receive invitations to the SLA 1952 Convention. The earlier these invitations are received, the earlier a choice can be made and hotel accommodations arranged. If any Chapters are planning to invite the Association in 1952, will the Chapter presidents notify Headquarters before June 1, 1950.

#### Director of Aslib Retires

Announcement has been received of the retirement of Miss E. M. R. Ditmas from her post as Director of Aslib. Miss Ditmas, who has carried an increasingly heavy double burden of administrative and technical work, has wished for some time to be able to devote more time to study and research. Now that the new Aslib has come into existence and the generosity of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research has made reorganization on a large scale possible, this seemed an auspicious time to make the change. Although her formal resignation should have taken effect January 1, 1950, the Director agreed to continue in office until the end of February 1950, thus allowing more time for the choice and appointment of a successor. Word has not yet been received of the new appointment.

#### Obituary

#### Maria C. Brace

Friends of Maria C. Brace were greatly saddened to learn of her death in a Baltimore hospital on February 20, 1950. Although Miss Brace was frail in body and ill repeatedly in the last few years, her death came unexpectedly. Widely known in educational and library circles, "Bracie", as she was affectionately christened by those close to her, leaves behind more than the traditional host of friends who were stirred by her warm friendliness, her abiding loyalty and her forthright sense of justice.

After a most varied career as high school teacher, teacher of German, and as librarian, which included assignments in the Iowa State College Library and the public libraries of Omaha, Nebraska; Waterloo, Iowa; St. Paul, Minnesota; Hartford, Connecticut; Newark,

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New Jersey; and Reading, Pennsylvania, Miss Brace became head of the Industrial Department of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, Maryland. She subsequently organized its Business and Economics Department in 1932 and served as its head until she retired in 1948.

Miss Brace had been a valued member of Special Libraries Association for many years. She served as its Group Liaison Officer and served on many of its committees at both the local and Association level. She was President of the Baltimore Chapter in 1934 and 1935, and was instrumental in the formation of the Washington Chapter. *Special Library Resources*, still the most comprehensive survey of special libraries to date, benefitted from her sound judgment and tremendous enthusiasm. Her latest contribution to the "tools of business information" is a compilation of gaps in business statistics—a study offered to SLA for publication.

No one within range of her radiant spirit could help but gain for himself a zest for living and a genuine feeling of professional integrity. Special Libraries Association, as indeed the entire library profession, is stronger for her straight-forward counselling and understanding. To her family we offer deepest sympathy in their loss.

R. L. V.

### Mary L. Leopold

Mary L. Leopold, assistant librarian of Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Research Laboratories Library, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, died on January 3, 1950. Prior to her affiliation with the Westinghouse Corporation in 1944, Miss Leopold had been assistant librarian in the Periodical and Reference Departments and librarian of Continuations in the Catalog Department of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. She had been an Associate member of SLA since 1945.

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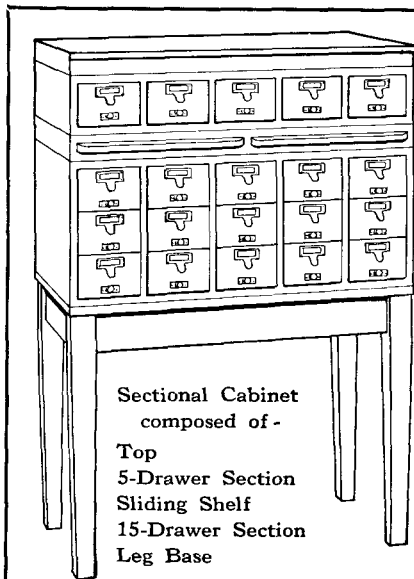
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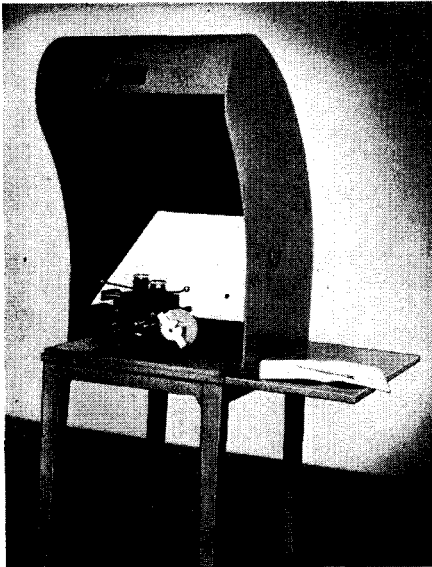
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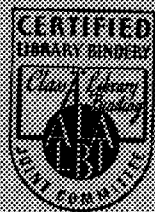
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